

REMARKS

102 Rejections

In the above referenced Office Action, Claims 1 -45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Hill et al (US Patent 5,796,944). The Applicant has reviewed the Hill reference and, for the following rationale, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is not anticipated nor rendered obvious by the Hill reference.

Applicant respectfully contends that the Hill reference fails to teach or suggest providing an address of one device to another device as claimed independent Claim 1. For instance, Claim 1 recites in part (emphasis added):

... a controller coupled to said communications network, said controller adapted to store address information for said first device therein, said controller adapted to store address information for said second device therein, said controller further adapted to provide said address information of said second device to said first device such that a communication path can be efficiently established between said first device and said second device.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference does not teach or suggest a controller for providing address information of a second device to a first device.

Applicant also respectfully asserts that the Hill reference fails to teach or suggest

providing the address to establish a communication path between the first and second device.

Applicant respectfully asserts that to the extent the Hill may teach receiving a source and destination device address, it does not teach providing the address to another device. Applicant respectfully asserts that to the extent the Hill reference may teach communication of an address it is limited to within a single internetworking device 10 and that communications are within components (e.g., AMA) of that single device address [Col. 29 lines 20 – 62; Col. 31 lines 41-67; Col. 36 lines 56 - 67], not between two devices. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully asserts that Hill teaches away from the present invention by indicating receiving both the source and destination address [Col. 4, lines 37 to 40] indicating a device knows the destination address and therefore no need to provide it. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference cannot anticipate nor render obvious Claim 1 since it does not teach or suggest elements recited in Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits amended Claim 1 is allowable over the Hill reference.

Applicant respectfully contends that the Hill reference fails to teach or suggest obtaining address information as claimed independent Claim 9. For instance, Claim 9 recites in part (emphasis added):

... said first device contacting a controller to determine the status of said second device;

said first device obtaining, from said controller, address information for said second device... .

Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference does not teach or suggest a first device contacting a controller to determine the status of said second device. Applicant also respectfully asserts that the Hill reference fails to teach or suggest obtaining the address and establishing a communication path between the first and second device. Applicant respectfully asserts that to the extent the Hill may teach receiving a source and destination device address, it does not teach a first device obtaining the address to another device. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference cannot anticipate nor render obvious Claim 9 since it does not teach or suggest elements recited in Claim 9. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits amended Claim 9 is allowable over the Hill reference.

Applicant respectfully contends that the Hill reference fails to teach or suggest providing address information as claimed independent Claim 18. For instance, Claim 18 recites in part (emphasis added):

... means for providing said address information of said second device to said first device such that a communication path can be established

Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference does not teach or suggest a controller for providing address information of a second device to a first device.

Applicant also respectfully asserts that the Hill reference fails to teach or suggest providing the address to establish a communication path between the first and second device. Applicant respectfully asserts that to the extent the Hill may teach receiving a

source and destination device address, it does not teach providing the address to another device. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference cannot anticipate nor render obvious Claim 18 since it does not teach or suggest elements recited in Claim 18. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits amended Claim 18 is allowable over the Hill reference.

Applicant respectfully contends that the Hill reference fails to teach or suggest providing information regarding assignment of addresses as claimed independent Claim 26. For instance, Claim 26 recites in part (emphasis added):

... said dynamic network address registration system adapted to store information regarding the assignment of dynamic network addresses to said network devices and provide said information to other network devices

Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference does not teach or suggest a controller for providing address information to other network devices. Applicant respectfully asserts that to the extent the Hill may teach receiving a source and destination device address, it does not teach providing the address to another device. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference cannot anticipate nor render obvious Claim 26 since it does not teach or suggest elements recited in Claim 26. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits amended Claim 26 is allowable over the Hill reference.

Applicant respectfully contends that the Hill reference fails to teach or suggest recognize requesting or providing an address as claimed independent Claim 36. For instance, Claim 36 recites in part (emphasis added):

...said communication frame analysis component adapted to analyze information included in a communication frame and recognize if said communication frame is requesting or providing a network IP address....

Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference does not teach or suggest a controller for providing address information of another device. Applicant also respectfully asserts that the Hill reference fails to teach or suggest recognizing if said communication frame is requesting or providing. Applicant respectfully asserts that to the extent the Hill may teach receiving a source and destination device address, it does requesting an address and does not teach providing the address to another device. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference cannot anticipate nor render obvious Claim 36 since it does not teach or suggest elements recited in Claim 36. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits amended Claim 36 is allowable over the Hill reference.

Applicant respectfully contends that the Hill reference fails to teach or suggest obtaining and transmitting information regarding an address as claimed independent Claim 42. For instance, Claim 42 recites in part (emphasis added):

... obtaining a dynamic network address via a secondary communications circuit;

transmitting information regarding said dynamic network address to a network address registration system via a primary communication system

...

Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference does not teach or suggest a obtaining a dynamic network address via a secondary communications circuit and transmitting via a primary communication. Applicant respectfully asserts that to the extent the Hill may teach receiving a source and destination device address, it does not teach providing the address to another device. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the Hill reference cannot anticipate nor render obvious Claim 42 since it does not teach or suggest elements recited in Claim 42. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits amended Claim 42 is allowable over the Hill reference.

Applicant respectfully asserts that Claims 2 -18, 10 - 17, 19 - 25, 27 - 35, 37 - 41 and 43 - 45 are allowable as depending from allowable independent claims.

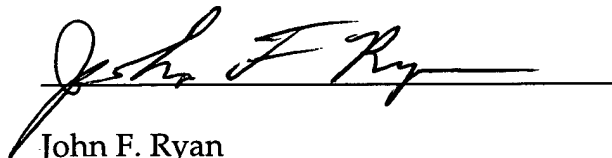
Conclusion

In light of the above-listed amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the remaining Claims. The examiner is urged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO

Date: 3/12, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Ryan", is written over a horizontal line.

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